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The Highlander

Thursday January 9 2025 | Issue 671

INSIDE: REACTION TO TRUDEAU RESIGNATION PAGE 3 FREE

Four sheets to the wind...

Curlers took to the ice at the Minden Curling Club Jan. 7. Here, Val De Manoir and Tracy Gualberto sweep. *Photo by Justin Belanger.*

Fearrey wants to break ground at CR21 by 2026

By Mike Baker

Eighteen months from the $1.725 million purchase of 91.5 acres along County Road 21 in Haliburton - and Dysart et al mayor, Murray Fearrey, admits the township has "been slower than we should have been" in preparing the land for development.

Council authorized the purchase in July 2023, with Fearrey claiming the parcel represented the last chance to meaningfully expand Haliburton village. He said the property is ripe for residential, commercial and recreational use.

The mayor said much of last year was spent meeting with potential developers to get a sense of what can be done. While the township hasn't yet identified how many new housing units could be created, Fearrey said it will likely be a mix of single-family homes and multi-unit apartment-style builds.

County-based developer Paul Wilson, who owned the property from 2018 to 2022, previously told *The Highlander* he believed the land could accommodate up to 200 new homes.

Fearrey hopes 2025 will be the year for real progress at the site, noting township staff are working to amend the official plan to facilitate future development.

"It's [zoned] all rural right now… it will have to go through a comprehensive process to make sure we can do almost anything on the property. There will be more than two or three zones and they'll be interchangeable depending on what we do with the layout," Fearrey said, noting any change will also have to be ratified by the County of Haliburton.

Dysart CAO Tamara Wilbee said staff have identified what studies need to be completed before land can be rezoned and development can begin, with a report and estimated quote to be tabled at a special council meeting Jan. 10.

Continued **'Extendicare'** on page 2

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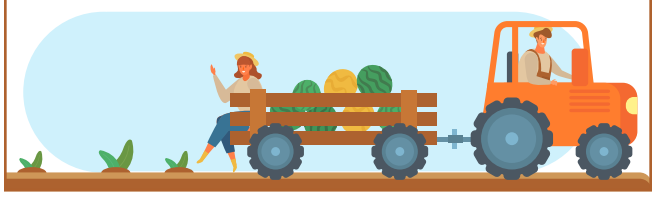

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Extendicare visiting potential sites

Continued from page 1

Swimming pool

While housing remains the priority, Fearrey said council is also earmarking land for a new arena, curling rink, swimming pool and outdoor playing courts.

"Everybody wants these things – that's what we're hearing. It'd be a huge financial cost and it's a number of years away if I'm being realistic, maybe 10 years, maybe more. But we feel it's important we dedicate space and allow for the opportunity," Fearrey said. "A new arena is probably $20 million today – and then you add in all the rest. I'm not saying it's going to happen, there would need to be a lot of help, but we don't want to limit the potential of that site."

Fearrey noted discussions with Extendicare over housing a new long-term care facility on the site is at an impasse. In 2022, the company announced it would be adding 68 new and 60 upgraded beds to a new building in the County, with the Ontario government committing $41 million to the project.

At the time, Extendicare president and CAO, Michael Guerriere, estimated the project would be complete within three years.

In an email to *The Highlander* Jan. 7, Extendicare spokesperson Owen Saull said, "our development team has visited a number of potential parcels of land and we continue to work closely with municipal officials as we identify a suitable site. We also continue to work with our partners at the Ministry of Long-Term Care, whose support is required to ensure the project is feasible given the unique challenges and costs related to building new homes in rural and remote communities."

Fearrey believes the CR 21 site to be the best fit. "We're pressing them."

Sewage expansion

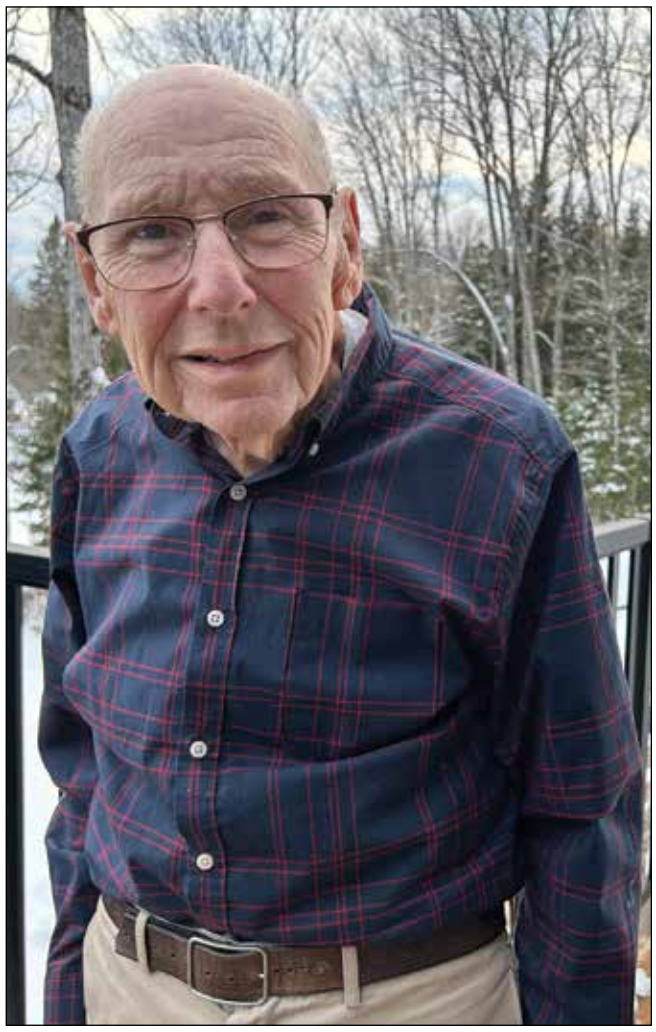
Dysart council will also discuss plans for the expansion of the township's sewage treatment facility on Friday (Jan. 10). Fearrey said he expects they will decide how best to proceed with engineering and design.

"Ultimately, we would like to double the size, but if we don't get the [provincial and federal] funding we're looking for, then we'll have to scale it down. It all depends on what's available," Fearrey said.

Council has spent more than a year investigating its options – a proposed public/private partnership to help fund a $17 million expansion was considered, though Fearrey said "that hasn't worked out as well as we thought."

He said any upgrade is likely at least three years away – though he believes there's enough capacity remaining to accommodate most, if not all, of what's built on the CR 21 property.

Public works director, Rob Camelon, said the plant has close to 20 per cent capacity remaining, which is enough for approximately 300 dwellings.



Dysart mayor Murray Fearrey said the township is still in the early stages of developing a 92-acre property along County Road 21. *File*.

After saying in December 2023 that he'd like to see ground broken at the CR 21 site within two years, Fearrey said he thinks that timeline is still achievable. He reiterated it's council's intent to sell the land for development once the pre-work is complete.

"I do think things will come together fairly quickly. There are some outstanding items we have to figure out, but a lot of the heavy lifting is done. The road is already in, we've got people working – a surveyor is laying out portions of the property for residential, commercial and recreational, so we're making progress," Fearrey said.

"Interest hasn't gone away – we still have parties we're meeting with. It's a very developable property and is probably going to be pretty reasonable [price wise] to service. Nobody is going to have to go in and blast rock everywhere, so there will be no shortage of takers, I'm sure," he added.

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Schmale: 'inevitable Trudeau took this step'

By Mike Baker

Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock MP Jamie Schmale said the only surprising thing about Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's resignation announcement Jan. 6 was that it took the three-term leader so long to make it.

Trudeau, who has been the federal Liberal leader since 2013 and prime minister since 2015, said he will step down once the party has chosen a successor. Governor General Mary Simon has prorogued Parliament until March 24 to allow for that process to unfold.

An election is to take place by Oct. 20.

"I think most people were expecting something to happen, just based on the fact a number of Trudeau's caucus in different regions – notably Quebec and Atlantic Canada – came out and said he needs to resign," Schmale said. "Despite every attempt to hang on, I think it was inevitable he took this step."

It's been a tough month for Trudeau, who saw his deputy PM and finance minister, Chrystia Freeland, suddenly resign Dec. 16. Freeland said she and Trudeau "found ourselves at odds about the best path forward for Canada" in recent weeks.

This came after the federal Conservatives, NDP and Bloc all said they had lost confidence in the prime minister.

"I think there were a number of things stacked against him, and this was kind of his only option left," Schmale told *The Highlander* Jan. 7.

Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock MP Jamie Schmale. *File*.

With an election on the horizon, the local MP confirmed he is seeking a fourth term in office - this time under the new Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes banner. It was announced in 2023 Brock township would split from its usual running mates to join the new riding of York-Durham, with Peterborough County, Trent Lakes and parts of North Kawartha added.

Schmale said he's excited to speak with constituents about their concerns ahead of the fall vote. He expects the cost-of-living crisis, housing and crime to be key themes.

"Our first priority is going to be fixing the budget – we're now paying more in interest payments on the national debt than some provinces are receiving for health care," Schmale said.

He believes the Conservatives' plan to eliminate the federal carbon tax will help to make life more affordable for Canadians.

"It's responsible for food prices going up, for fuel prices going up. Anyone that manufactures something or receives a product made by something that is impacted by the carbon tax will see an increase in prices across the supply chain. We want to cut that to bring down the cost of living," Schmale said.

The Conservatives are also pitching a revamped housing initiative, eliminating "bureaucratic red tape" to make it easier for developers to build; new measures to ensure violent repeat offenders receive longer jail sentences; and supports for businesses in the oil and gas, mining and lumber sectors to help reignite Canada's economy, Schmale added.

He also wants to see more money invested at the Canadian and U.S. border and additional focus on enhancing energy-related trade with America.

"The border is just like Swiss cheese for drugs, automobile thefts, weapons smuggling, human trafficking… we want a safe country for Canadian citizens," Schmale said.

On the threat of U.S. president-elect Donald Trump imposing tariffs on Canadian imports, Schmale said, "Canada has a lot of what the U.S. and the world is looking for – a good partner with lots of natural resources that has responsible extraction and some of the toughest labour laws anywhere. We can provide that energy – we have the ability."

HKLB Liberals envision 'interesting few months'

By Lisa Gervais

Bonnie French is the spokesperson for Leaning Left in HKLB – a recently-formed group she says has more than 150 members.

She personally thinks Prime Minster Justin Trudeau should have announced his resignation earlier, but has ultimately done the right thing.

"I can like him, but that doesn't mean that I have to be so emotionally attached to a politician that I can't see the clarity that the Liberal party was going to be decimated if he stayed in," she said Jan. 7. "You've got to do what's right for everybody and not just for one person."

French added, "it's certainly going to be an interesting few months," noting her group will meet in two weeks' time. She is looking forward to a mini-leadership convention and an "open and honest fair process to pick the next person."

French blamed the media for much of the "hatred and vitriol" directed at Trudeau. She also accused the public of ignorance of the political process, such as what the federal and provincial governments are responsible for. "Now that Trudeau is out of the picture, who are they going to rage against?"

Asked about internal party turmoil leading to the move, such as the resignation of Chrystia Freeland, French said, "obviously, there was some deep-seated disagreement between her and Justin that led to that because she has been his right-hand person since the time he was elected. I understand some of the fiscal things he had proposed to do did not sit well with her. But for her to have done it in the way she did is interesting… I know he's had some missteps, name me a politician who hasn't done stupid stuff."

However, she said Trudeau and his government had done good things.

"He got us all though a worldwide pandemic… far fewer Canadians died because of the steps that he took. He put money into people's pockets."

She added he protected women's rights and promoted females to his cabinet.

Further, he increased the child tax benefit "to lift more kids out of poverty in the last nine years than any previous government. If the Conservatives are elected, a lot of people are going to lose a lot of these things that they have come to rely on."

The registered Liberal party member said trade agreements required a carbon tax, and Trudeau's government provided rebates.

Speaking to a Jamie Schmale Facebook post calling for an immediate election, French said, "having to hold a federal election when a party is leaderless and in shambles, that to me says that they're the weak contenders if they're so afraid if they can't let the political process happen."

Schmale, the Conservative member for HKLB also called the Liberals a "tax and spend" government but French said, "if you look at our tax rates, and what we get for what we pay, we have a higher quality of life than the United States. People live longer in Canada because we have our socialized health care, which is being strangled, and choked and starved to death by our current provincial parties.

"If we are stupid enough to go with putting an extra $5 a month back into our pocket, then you can say goodbye to a lot of the things we enjoy that give us our quality of life."

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CUPE calls for more class supports

By Mike Baker

After Trillium Lakelands District School Board (TLDSB) reported an $8 million surplus for the 2023/24 school year, Bill Campbell, president of the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) local 997, said that money should be invested to improve safety and provide greater supports for students inside the classroom.

Speaking to *The Highlander*, Campbell said he was dismayed to hear the school board reporting such a large surplus while some of his unionized employees were complaining about a lack of resources – including personnel – to effectively do their jobs.

A survey conducted in October by CUPE's Ontario School Board Council of Unions (OSBCU) revealed 88 per cent of CUPE employees at TLDSB say staffing must increase to meet the needs of students.

CUPE 997 represents approximately 800 members across 56 TLDSB schools who work as educational assistants and clerical, maintenance, custodial and technical staff – Campbell said 263, or just under 33 per cent, participated in the survey.

Of those who did respond, more than 75 per cent said they are exposed to a violent incident on school property at least once a month, with approximately 33 per cent exposed to violence daily. Over half say their workspace is evacuated at least once a month due to violent and disruptive behaviour.

There were no specific details provided about violence in Haliburton County schools.

Campbell said EAs generally bear the brunt of the behaviours.

"When most of our people got into this job, the role was much more focused on helping students with their educational needs. Whereas now, it's almost all about being a bodyguard and protecting other students and staff," Campbell said. "The job has definitely changed over the last 15 to 20 years."

He puts that down to a lack of funding from the Ontario government – according to the union, TLDSB has consistently received less money year-over-year since 2012.

Campbell argued that if funding had kept up with inflation, the school board would have received an additional $27.3 million for the previous school year, which could have hired an extra 365 full-time education workers.

Based on local EAs earning $29.05 per hour and working approximately 1,435 hours per year, TLDSB could hire an additional 191 classroom supports with its $8 million surplus. The board currently has 246 full-time EAs.

"A lot of kids today act out because they don't feel heard, they don't feel they can communicate their feelings and some of that is because they're ignored because there just aren't enough people to support them," he said.

Campbell believes the issue is worse than it appears – he said many staff have told him they don't report incidents because everything needs to be logged digitally and EAs don't have access to board-provided devices at work.

He said there are some students who require assistance but don't get it, with EAs told to focus on those with behavioral issues.

"Students come to school to get a good education, but in some cases they aren't getting it because everybody is focused on the high-priority students," Campbell said.

Carolynne Bull, TLDSB director of communications, said the board has invested in additional training for staff in recent years to help support students with social emotional learning skills and managing conflict and stress effectively.

She said in-class staffing is "based on the identified specific student supports required to thrive in the classroom."

Bull noted TLDSB will reinvest its surplus funds, with senior administration reviewing priorities. She said improvements to special education programming and investing in new technology for skilled trades programs are being considered.

Bill Campbell, president of CUPE local 997 representing school support staff in Haliburton, says more money needs to be spent supporting students in the classroom. *Submitted*.

Weather zones

TLDSB has introduced a new zoned approach for inclement weather days, effective Jan. 7.

If transportation is cancelled in one or more zones due to inclement weather, no buses will travel to any schools within the cancelled zone. Schools will remain open, but parents and guardians will be responsible for drop-off and pick-up.

All County schools – Archie Stouffer in Minden, J.D. Hodgson, Stuart Baker, Hal High and the Adult and Alternate Education Centre in Haliburton, and both Cardiff and Wilberforce elementary schools – will fall in Zone 3.

Bus cancellation information can be found on the TLDSB website, mybustoschool.ca, or through local radio stations.

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COUNCIL MEETINGS VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted in-person (Council Chambers, 7 Milne St., Minden) and with electronic participation. Meetings begin at 9:00 am unless otherwise noted. The scheduled upcoming meetings are:

- January 9 - Regular Council Meeting
- January 14 - Special Meeting
- January 16 - Special Meeting
- January 30 - Regular Council Meeting

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by attending in-person or via the live-stream link on the Township CivicWeb Portal.

NOTICE: PUBLIC MEETING - PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE TOWNSHIP'S FEES AND CHARGES BY-LAW

Take notice that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills will be holding a Public Meeting on Thursday, January 30, 2025 during its Regular Council Meeting regarding Proposed changes to the Township's Fees and Charges By-law.

The meeting will commence at 9:00 AM in the Council Chambers located at 7 Milne Street, Minden ON. Detailed information to follow the week of January 12, 2025.

Dated this 2nd day of January 2025.
If you have any questions, please contact:
Vicki Bull, Clerk
(705) 286-1260 Ext 515
vbull@mindenhills.ca

NOTICE OF BUDGET DELIBERATIONS AND ADOPTIONS 2025

TAKE NOTICE that the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills will commence 2025 Budget deliberations at multiple upcoming Special Meetings of Council.

1. Tuesday, January 14, 2025: Operating and Capital Budget review for the Fire Department; Public Works Department; Water and Wastewater; and Administration.

2. Thursday, January 16, 2025: Operating and Capital Budget review for the Community Services Department; Planning Department; and Building Department.

3. Tuesday, February 4, 2025: Adopt and Finalize the 2025 Budget.

Adoption of the Water and Wastewater rates will be considered at the January 14, 2025 meeting. Please note that dates are subject to change and are dependent on deliberation and direction.
For complete details, visit our website.

RECREATION AND ACTIVITIES

The Minden Hills Community Services Department has a new schedule for drop-in programming. Check it out online or at the SG Nesbitt Memorial Arena.

AGNES JAMIESON GALLERY

Artwork from the permanent collection, featuring André Lapine (1866-1952), as well as new acquisitions, are now on display in the Agnes Jamieson Gallery. The Gallery is open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am – 4 pm. Admission is by donation. For more info: 705-286-3763 or culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca.

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2. Participate in a **Town Hall Session**
- **Wednesday, January 29th at 6:30 PM**
In-Person (SG Nesbitt Memorial Arena - Community Rooms 1 & 2, 55 Parkside St.)
- **Thursday, January 30 @ 7 PM online**
Email lfitton@mindenhills.ca to register

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Show me the money to attract candidates

By Lisa Gervais

Octogenarian County coun. Murray Fearrey has raised the idea of increasing councillor salaries to attract municipal candidates in 2026.

During a Dec. 11 County of Haliburton budget discussion, Fearrey said, "it's not my nature to advocate more spending, but I have asked the CAO to get some comparators for us. Our average age here is over 70 and we're not attracting younger people because they can't leave their jobs and come to work and do this job. And it is a job now. It's not like it was."

In the 2022 election, half of all candidates in Haliburton County were acclaimed; Mayor Bob Carter, deputy mayor Lisa Schell and coun Bob Sisson in Minden Hills; Fearrey, deputy mayor Walt McKechnie and councillors Barry Boice and Tammy Donaldson in Dysart et al; deputy mayor Jennifer Dailloux and Julia Shortreed in Algonquin Highlands; and deputy mayor Cec Ryall and councillors Cam McKenzie and Ruth Strong in Highlands East.

Coun. Liz Danielsen agreed with Fearrey, saying, "75 per cent of us are seniors, which is not representative of our constituents, despite us having been elected to the positions we have." She said if council was to consider a pay increase, "we could do it over a period of a couple of years, so there's less impact on the budget overall."

Carter said he supported Fearrey, but unlike Danielsen, thought it would be difficult to phase in a pay increase. "Because one of the notions of why we would have an increase is to try to attract people to the job. And we almost need to have that determined up front at the time of the next election."

He said potential candidates would need to be able to determine if it was financially possible to be a councillor. "As coun. Fearrey says, this is no longer a part-time job for the most part. And if we're going to ask for people to dedicate all of their time to this and do it right, I think that they have to be compensated for it."

Fearrey noted there was unspent money in reserves. He asked if there was a reason they could not take $80,000 from that to give each councillor a $10,000 raise. "I think if we bumped it once or twice, people would start to think 'okay, maybe now I can work two days a week, or three days a week, and I can go to council."

He said he finds the job today "takes a lot of time." He said the budget documents he received from Dysart would take him a full day to go through.

He added he is not personally looking for a pay rise.

"I've been one of the worst down here to say it's a community job. We shouldn't get paid. Well, you know what? Things have changed. Over the last few years, it's much more complicated. If we don't get it (the pay) up so it's attractive, and wait to the very last minute to do it, people won't (run). People need to think about this if they want to change their life. They need to start thinking about it a year ahead if they are going to run."

Less than a living wage

CAO Gary Dyke said there were a couple of ways to address the council pay issue.

He said staff could do a review, bring the information back to council, and council decide if it's appropriate to raise pay and make it effective for the next council. That way, it wouldn't look like the current council is giving itself a pay increase.

He said staff could then modify the election packages along with lower-tier governments, "where all that information is made available well in advance of the election, so if you're considering running it would talk about remuneration, obligations, those types of things going forward." As such, he said anybody considering running in 2026 would know how much they'd be making.

Danielsen said they'd have to encourage the lower-tier, since that is where most of the salary comes from.

"I don't think a lot of people realize that members of council make less than a living wage," she said.

As an example, Highlands East council has voted to increase council pay effective Jan. 1. The mayor will now be paid $32,500 a year, the deputy mayor $26,150 and councillors, $22,025. Eight councillors also get paid more for being on County council.

Dysart et al mayor, and County coun. Murray Fearrey, said councillors need to be paid more. *Photo by Lisa Gervais.*

CAO/treasurer Brittany McCaw said there had not been an increase since 2018 and she was proposing "fair remuneration" after reviewing other salaries across Haliburton County, Hastings County, and Peterborough County.

The average salary in Ontario in 2024 is estimated to be $67,588.04 per year. However, the actual amount earned can vary widely by area.

Council asked Dyke to prepare a review of County council compensation levels for consideration at a Feb. 12 meeting.

Former Kilcoo director settles civil lawsuits

By Mike Baker

A pair of civil lawsuits alleging a former director of Minden's Kilcoo Camp sexually assaulted a student camper and former staffer has been settled out of court.

In July 2023, David 'Lub' Latimer was accused of manipulation, false imprisonment and sexual assault in suits filed at the Ontario Superior Court of Justice in Bracebridge. He had been a director at Kilcoo from 1985 until his resignation in the summer of 2023, shortly before news of the suits became public.

The first plaintiff, a Toronto resident and 39 years old when the suits were filed, claims she was abused between 1990 and 1993, with the second plaintiff, a 33-year-old from Stouffville, saying they were first assaulted in 2009, shortly after becoming a staff member, and continuing until 2013.

None of the allegations contained in the suits were ever presented in court and there have been no criminal charges laid against Latimer, who has maintained his innocence. His lawyer, Scott Hutchison, declined to comment when approached by *The Highlander* this week.

Toronto-based civil litigation attorney, Gillian Hnatiw, who represented the two plaintiffs said the settlement was "resolved by mutual agreement of the parties… my clients are pleased to have things resolved. At the moment, they have no further comment."

A report published by CBC last month claims a statement posted to the Kilcoo Camp website on Dec. 12 said, "the Camp and all involved have learned from, and are grateful for, the frank and positive discussions that have led to this outcome." The statement further noted Latimer has retired as director and will have no involvement at Kilcoo moving forward.

The camp also said it has created a sexual harassment and abuse policy, and anti-bullying policy that will evolve to respond to camp management best practices – with both available on its website at kilcoo.com.

As of Jan. 8, all reference to Latimer had been removed.

Kim Bouchard, the camp's director of operations, did not respond when asked to comment on the settlement. While Kilcoo was named as a defendant in the suits, Bouchard said in 2023 "these troubling allegations only involve the actions of the former director."

Details of the settlement, which was announced Dec. 12, have not been released.

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OPP NEWS

Thefts from vehicles

The Haliburton detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is currently investigating multiple thefts from vehicles in the Township of Minden Hills.

On Jan. 5, police received a report that suspect(s) had broken into several vehicles in the area of Hwy. 35 and Red Umbrella Road. As officers continued to investigate, they learned that numerous vehicles had been broken into sometime overnight.

Haliburton OPP is asking residents in the area to check their security cameras for any suspicious activity and report it to police.

"Vehicle owners are reminded to always lock your vehicles and close the windows. Unlocked vehicles, and vehicles with valuables visible, are the first vehicles targeted. Perpetrators incur more risk of being observed, being identified and getting caught if they are forced to physically break into vehicles," OPP said.

Mischief at business

OPP are investigating a mischief at a local business that left a window shattered.

On Dec. 29, 2024, officers responded to Let's Get Local in downtown Minden. The investigation revealed that a front window had been busted sometime in the early morning hours.

OPP said investigators are looking for information that may lead to the identification of the suspect(s) responsible for this crime.

Owner Mary Douglas told *The Highlander* she thinks it happened between 1.30 and 2 a.m. but the alarm did not go off and culprits were not caught on camera. She said it was upsetting but welcomed the police request for information, commenting "whoever did it needs to be made aware this is not acceptable. The police are out watching."

If you have information regarding the incident, contact the Haliburton County OPP at 705-286-1431 or 1-888-310-1122. You can also provide information anonymously by contacting Kawartha Haliburton Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) or online at khcrimestoppers.com. When you contact Crime Stoppers, you stay anonymous, and you never have to testify.

Fail to stop

OPP have charged a driver for numerous driving-related charges and criminal offences in Highlands East.

On Jan. 3, shortly after 4 p.m. OPP say they attempted to conduct a traffic stop on a pickup truck that was travelling on County Road 503. "The driver fled from police at a high rate of speed and in a dangerous manner. Due to risk of safety to the public, the officer did not continue the pursuit," they said.

Police continued to search for the vehicle and driver. "Officers located the vehicle that had been involved in a motor vehicle collision, but the driver had left the scene and fled on foot. Officers continued to search the area and located the driver of the motor vehicle, who was arrested by officers," OPP said.

As a result of this investigation, a 41-year-old from Highlands East has been charged with: flight from peace officer; resist peace officer, dangerous operation; fail to stop for police; operation while prohibited; fail to comply with prohibition order; fail to comply with probation order; fail to report accident and five counts of driving while under suspension.

The accused was held for a bail hearing to appear on video before the Ontario Court of Justice.

Three drivers charged

The week of Dec. 15-21, 2024 was busy in Haliburton County with officers making three arrests for impaired driving.

On Dec. 15, just after 1:48 p.m., officers received a traffic complaint about a possible impaired driver in Minden. They located the vehicle on Hwy. 35 and conducted a traffic stop. After a brief conversation, OPP said, "the officers were quickly led to an impaired driving investigation. Through investigation, the driver was charged with an impaired driving offence." A 68-year-old woman was charged with operation while impaired, blood concentration 80 plus.

On Dec. 18, at 12:13 p.m., officers received another traffic complaint of a possible impaired driver on Hwy. 35 in Minden. Haliburton OPP located the vehicle on County Road 21 and conducted a traffic stop. "Through investigation, the driver was charged with impaired driving offences," they said. A 56-year-old male from Minden was charged with: operation while impaired - blood concentration (80 plus); operation while impaired - alcohol and drugs; operation while prohibited and driving while suspended - Highway Traffic Act offence.

Then, on Dec. 21, at 10:07 a.m., officers conducted a traffic stop on Bobcaygeon Road in Minden. They said, "the driver emitted an odour of alcohol and through investigation the driver was charged with an impaired driving offence." A 59-year-old Minden man was charged with operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (80 plus).

(Lisa Gervais).

County declares intimate partner violence an epidemic

By Lisa Gervais

The YWCA Peterborough Haliburton and Kawartha Sexual Assault Centre conservatively estimate that more than 2,500 women in Haliburton County have, or are now, experiencing intimate partner violence.

In making a presentation to County council Dec. 11, YWCA executive director Kim Dolan said, "we know that 30 per cent of women over the age of 15 experience gender-based violence. It happens to our girls, our friends, our mothers, our aunts, and we have worked with many women who are 70 and older."

Dolan, Nycole Duncan of the women's centre and manager of HERS in Minden, and Brittany MacMillan, executive director of the assault centre spoke to councillors.

Following an inquest into the deaths of three women in Renfrew, the delegation was seeking a County declaration of intimate partner violence as an epidemic. They also wanted recommendations from the inquest to be referred to the Community Safety and Well-Being department.

On Sept. 22, 2015, three Renfrew women were murdered by a man with whom each had a past relationship. The tragic event highlighted critical failures in the systems meant to protect victims of intimate partner violence. The findings were released June 28, 2022. In total, 86 recommendations for change were made, speaking to oversight and accountability, system approaches, collaboration and communication, funding, education and training, measures addressing perpetrators, intervention and safety.

Another report, The Mass Casualty Commission, was completed in March 2023, providing 130 recommendations. It declared the epidemic, calling for a public health approach, and mobilizing a society-wide response. Other recent reports include the national action plan to end gender-based violence and the national inquiry into missing and murdered indigenous women and girls.

The three delegates said femicide numbers are trending up.

Dolan added the rural nature of Haliburton County makes it a dangerous place for some women.

> *I'm not at all hopeful for 2025 and the reason for that is how vulnerable we are economically and socially in our County these days and across Ontario, with the cost of housing, the cost of living, the challenges in finding sustainable work. All of these things I believe, contribute to the frustration people experience that are often taken out in the household.* ***Coun Jennifer Dailloux***

"Rural realities are significant barriers for women with, and without, children. There's physical and social isolation; there are transportation challenges; there are issues related to income and a living wage," Dolan said.

She added, "they may not have good, reliable internet; they may not be able to afford it. And we've heard stories from women for years that when their abusive husband or boyfriend leaves for work during the day, the phones go with them.

"We've got the issues of economy and ecology and for many people a connection to the land; and that comes with access to, and familiarity with, guns."

Worse in rural areas

The three added there are a lot of reasons that women in rural and remote communities are at an increased risk of violence, including traditional beliefs about gender roles, the permanence of marriage, "til death do us part," shame, blame for themself or from themself or others, and secrecy.

OPP reports indicate that in rural areas violence is 75 per cent higher than for women in urban areas.

The delegation said they were compelled to take action as during a 104-week period, 124 women in Ontario lost their lives.

Coun. Walt McKechnie commented, "there's a lot of cases where this goes on for a long time, and the neighbours know about it, the family knows about it, and the police probably even know about it, but everybody's really involved when finally, somebody gets killed." He agreed that society must get involved and the police and courts crack down on offenders.

Referencing the May Isles' inquest in Collingwood, in which a man killed his former wife and then took his own life, the delegates said, "one of the recommendations that came forward from that inquest was a call for a robust, coordinated community response to violence, because we all have a piece in this."

Coun. Jennifer Dailloux said, "I'm very much in support of Haliburton County signing this and sending it on to the appropriate authorities. I am troubled, as we all are, by the statistics and the growth in femicides that you've shared with us today.

"I'm not at all hopeful for 2025 and the reason for that is how vulnerable we are economically and socially in our County these days and across Ontario, with the cost of housing, the cost of living, the challenges in finding sustainable work. All of these things I believe, contribute to the frustration people experience that are often taken out in the household."

The County made the declaration.

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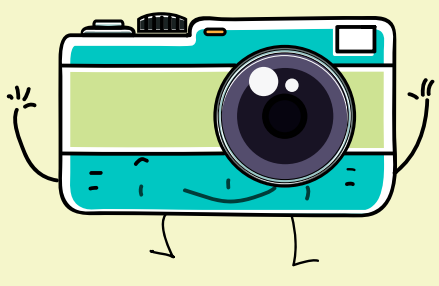

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To reflect and promote pride in the culture, people and landscape of The Highlands.

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We must end epidemic

By Lisa Gervais

While I support the County of Haliburton joining other municipalities in declaring intimate partner violence an epidemic in Ontario – proclamations such as these are somewhat toothless tigers.

As detailed in a story in today's *Highlander*, the YWCA Peterborough Haliburton and Kawartha Sexual Assault Centre made a presentation at the last County council meeting of 2024.

And despite coronial inquests and reports, the situation does not seem to be improving. In fact, it is getting worse.

The reality that a coronial inquest into the killing of three women in Renfrew was not wrapped up until June 28, 2022 - when the crime occurred on Sept. 22, 2017 - tells a story in itself. How broken must a system be when it takes five years to rule on such a killing?

Carol Culleton, Anastasia Kuzyk and Nathalie Warmerdam were murdered by a man with whom each had a past relationship. None of them knew about his history of violence against women. It highlighted the critical failures in the systems meant to protect victims of intimate partner violence.

That inquest resulted in 86 recommendations speaking to oversight and accountability, system approaches, collaboration and communication, funding, education and training, measures addressing perpetrators of intimate partner violence, intervention and safety. One of the 86 was to declare intimate partner violence an epidemic.

Another commission, the Mass Casualty Commission of March 2023, recommended a public health approach to preventing mass casualty incidents and mobilizing a society-wide response. The National Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence, November, 2022, spoke to things such as more funding for supports, prevention, and a responsive justice system.

The Ontario Association of Interval and Transition Houses is one of the few that does an annual femicide report. They review media reports, so femicides that have not made the news are not included.

They found 62 in 2023-24, the same as the previous year - decidedly trending up since 2015-16, when there were 35.

Why is this happening?

For one thing, living in rural areas such as Haliburton County make it a dangerous place for some women. There is physical and social isolation, transportation challenges, and some struggling to make a living wage. They may not be able to afford, or get, good, reliable internet. The abuser takes the phone when he goes to work. We are also hunters, which means men have access to, and are familiar with, guns.

OPP reports indicate that in rural areas, violence against women is 75 per cent higher than for women in urban areas.

We suspect the post-pandemic economic challenges are also leading to violence in the home.

Coun. Walt McKechnie quite rightly commented that sometimes abuse goes on for a long time; neighbours, family members, even the police may know about it. However, he said it is not until someone is killed that people really take notice. The OPP and courts regrettably also let us down.

He's right. As a community, we have to take a zero-tolerance approach to intimate partner violence. That means if we hear or see something, we must speak up. Perhaps not in front of the actual perpetrator, making it worse for the victim. However, we can reach out to authorities. And they must step up and take action. Ending an intimate partner violence epidemic is up to all of us.

HUMANS OF HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS

It's all about 'doing what kids do'

By Susan Tromanhauser

Tom Deschenes remembers coming to the Highlands as a 10-year-old when his parents purchased a cottage. He fondly recalls spending days "doing what kids do" - catching frogs, fishing and exploring the forest. As an adult, he purchased part of the family acreage with a plan to build a cottage for himself and recapture the freedom and be close to nature.

For most of his career, Deschenes lived in Brampton and worked in the printing business, producing daily newspapers as well as Sears and Eatons catalogues. With the end of the Consumers Distributing catalogue, Deschenes knew the business was changing and his printing career was nearing its end. When his wife's place of employment sold to an American firm, it was time to leave city life and finally build in the Highlands. The original plan for a cottage changed to a full-time residence.

After the density and noise of Brampton, Deschenes enjoys the isolation of his Algonquin Highlands home. He found it ironic that Canada Post was able to find his address, ensuring all his monthly bills arrived; but it took time for some services to find their home. The internet provider insisted Deschenes' address did not exist and for the first six years, Deschenes relied on data from his cell phone to access government and other services.

When asked about the difference between a home and a homestead, Deschenes explains "everything you do yourself makes it a homestead." Guildcrest Homes built the basics so the couple was able to move in quickly to a liveable space, but with still much work to do. Deschenes completed landscaping, retaining walls, decks, stairways and a cozy fire pit area.

He was about to finish the basement when health problems arose. Over a two-year period, his strength deteriorated, leaving Deschenes unable to walk down stairs without assistance. He soon discovered another problem in the Highlands – getting a family doctor.

Still on the wait list after eight years, Deschenes was forced to seek help at the Haliburton hospital emergency room. An astute doctor diagnosed rheumatoid arthritis and referred Deschenes to a specialist in Barrie. For two years, he traveled monthly there to confirm the diagnosis and get appropriate treatment.

Deschenes says the Ontario health care system "starts with the most inexpensive medication but it takes months to see if it is effective." Finally, a third medication was deemed helpful with full movement returning. He now travels twice a year to Barrie; his energy is back and he has resumed his homestead projects.

Tom Deschenes lives in Algonquin Highlands. *Submitted*.

In spite of the difficulties with adjusting to the Highlands, Deschenes loves living in nature. While he no longer spends time catching frogs or exploring the woods, his favourite past time is sitting outside listening to the neighbours do what kids do – just like he did half a century ago.

Correction: In the Dec. 19 *Highlander*, we said County taxpayers will pay an extra $15.97 a month per $100,000 of residential assessment after the upper-tier government passed its 2025 budget at a council meeting Dec. 11. The extra money is not per month, but over the course of the year. We apologize for the editing error.

JANUARY

Dysart mayor defends land deal
Dysart et al council has committed its taxpayers to paying off a $1.45 million mortgage on a 91.5-acre parcel of land it purchased on County Road 21. Mayor Murray Fearrey said the township intends to pay off the mortgage - either via reserves or a loan - by March 1, 2024. Fearrey said the decision was made following a closed council discussion Nov. 28. He said the mortgage, held by developer Paul Wilson through his company Harburn Holdings, has to be settled to ensure the township isn't in breach of the Ontario Municipal Act.

County health in 'crisis' due to staffing
Staffing challenges continue for both the Haliburton emergency department and Minden's urgent care clinic, with the clinic forced to close its doors Jan. 15, for the first time since going full-time. The Kawartha North Family Health Team, which operates the clinic at the former Minden ER site, posted to its Facebook page Jan. 12 that this past Monday's shuttering was "due to staffing issues" and apologized for the inconvenience. The move coincides with comments by County councillor and Minden Hills mayor Bob Carter, claiming people are being turned away at the clinic because current staff cannot handle patient volumes. Carter told a Jan. 10 County council meeting he's heard stories of people showing up at the clinic at 11 a.m. and not being seen as "they've got enough people already in the waiting room for the rest of the day." He further claimed the Haliburton ER is being overrun with patients with insufficient staff.

Rowden lived 'long, happy life'
Summer afternoons on his dock overlooking Twelve Mile Lake will never be the same for Haliburton resident Gary Rowden, who lost his dad, Harold. One of the County's last remaining Second World War veterans, Harold 'Rowdy' Rowden, passed away Jan. 14, just three months shy of his 100th birthday. The veteran had spent the past three years living at the Gardens of Haliburton retirement residence after a long life that involved a lengthy tour of Europe with the Canadian Armed Forces as a teenager and stints living in the Highlands, Toronto, and on both the west and east coasts.

Harold 'Rowdy' Rowden passes.

FEBRUARY

Action on short-term rentals
County council found a contractor to oversee the short-term rental bylaw that has not been finalized at the upper-tier, and Algonquin Highlands, Dysart et al, Highlands East and Minden Hills. While the company was not named at a Jan. 24 meeting, it was Granicus, the same company that handles the file for Niagara-on-the-Lake, Georgian Bay Township, Kawartha Lakes and Lake of Bays. They were the sole bidder after council put out an RFP Nov. 9, and were chosen by a committee Dec. 19.

Warm weather snap caused havoc
A warm weather snap ran roughshod over the Highlands' tourism sector, with some businesses scaling back operations and cancelling events. Tegan Legge, general manager of tourism and operations at Haliburton Forest and Wild Life Reserve, confirmed Feb. 5 that the 33rd annual Poker Run snowmobile fundraiser, slated for that coming weekend, had been cancelled. With temperatures rising as high as eight degrees Celcius Feb. 8 and 9, Legge said she couldn't guarantee the Forest's trail network would be in good enough condition to host the 400 to 600 riders that usually participate.

Goodger 'smart, funny and a wee bit saucy'
Tributes have been pouring in for the late Norma Goodger, who died Feb. 6. Former Algonquin Highlands mayor Carol Moffatt served with Norma on the Stanhope Museum committee, which is "heavyhearted" by the news, she wrote. Moffatt said Norma's roots were in cottaging, her parents having bought on Kushog in 1952. "Norma always said her heart was here, she just had to work in the city." When she retired, she moved to the cottage "and forged a remarkable life in the Haliburton Highlands."

Norma Goodger was remembered.

OPSEU selling Frost Centre
The Frost Centre went back up for sale as the Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU) remains embroiled in lawsuits against the union executives that oversaw the purchase in 2021. The property went back on the market in mid-February and is listed for $3.499 million. The union purchased the land and 21 buildings from the provincial government for $3.2 million in a deal announced in January four years ago.

Inquest into Hegedus death announced
The Ministry of the Solicitor General announced Feb. 23 it will conduct an inquest into the death of Leslie Hegedus – the man killed in a shoot-out with OPP in Haliburton July 15, 2020. Ministry spokesperson, Stephanie Rea, said details regarding the date and location would be provided at a later date when the information became available. Dr. Paul Dungey, regional supervising coroner, east region, Kingston office, made the coronial inquest announcement. The ministry noted Hegedus, 73, died in hospital on that day more than four years ago following an interaction with officers from the OPP in Haliburton. Inquests such as this are mandatory under the Coroners Act.

MARCH

CT scanner construction begins
Construction to accommodate a new CT scanner and mammography unit at the Haliburton hospital got underway March 4, with health officials calling the addition "the most significant enhancement" in the facility's 23-year history. Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) president and CEO, Veronica Nelson, said it was an exciting day for all County residents. "I've said it before, but this is a gamechanger for our community. It's going to dramatically change how healthcare is delivered here… now people don't have to worry about being carted away, they will have access to services they need much closer to home," Nelson said.

Halco Electronics pulling the plug
On a weekday afternoon, customers popped into The Source - Halco Electronics to wish owner Don van Nood and long-time employee, Ryan Urquhart, well as the two prepared to close the long-established Haliburton store in March 2024. They officially ended their lease at 160 Highland St. March 31 but were starting to wind down. Van Nood owned the shop since opening the May 24, 1999 weekend. This year would have been 25 years.

The Source-Halco Electronics closed.

Timekeeper racks up 160 games
There is rarely a more important person at the arena in Haliburton and Minden on Highland Storm game days than Diane Peacock. The long-time timekeeper for youth hockey in Haliburton County celebrated a special milestone in 2024, having helped officiate her 150th game of the season. No matter the weather, or circumstance, when the puck has dropped at Highland Storm games, Peacock has usually been the one there manning the clock and ensuring results, and all game details, are uploaded to the Ontario Minor Hockey Association (OMHA). Now into her 12th season, Peacock said timekeeping has become a real passion – a job she takes seriously at least five days per week.

Dylan Dahlke remembered as 'loving soul'
It's been six years since Adeilah Dahlke lost her "protector" – older brother, Dylan – but still, not a day goes by when she doesn't reach for her phone, hoping for a text or one of his impromptu calls. Dylan was 29 when he was murdered by Robert Anthony Ferguson, a now 64-year-old Highlands East resident, in the early hours of July 6, 2019. Ferguson was found guilty of second-degree murder in June 2023 after the court heard he stabbed Dahlke while he slept and left him to die. Ferguson was sentenced to life in prison by Justice Clyde Smith in a Lindsay courtroom March 20, 2024.

APRIL

Habitat keen to come to Highlands
Habitat for Humanity Peterborough & Kawartha Region told County council March 27, 2024 it is still working with the County of Haliburton to try to bring 60 affordable homes to the Wee Care property in Haliburton. Chief executive officer, Susan Zambonin, said they would also be interested in acquiring land for a ReStore in the Highlands, if a vacant, and affordable piece of property, could be found. She noted there are three Haliburton County residents on their board of directors, including Fay Martin, who is vice chair, Minden Hills mayor and County coun. Bob Carter, and Colleen Dermody, who are directors.

Loss of 12-Mile launch
It was learned an estimated 1,000 properties on Boshkung, Little Boshkung and Twelve Mile lakes could be affected if the new owners of Wedgewood Marina get out of the marina and boat launch business, Boshkung Lake Property Owners Association (BLPOA) president Tom Steele says. RPM Marinas general manager Cheryl Downs shared the news on social media that Wedgewood RPM had been sold and "the new owners will not be operating the property as a marina. The transition will take place early this summer." The property, on Hwy. 35 between Carnarvon and Minden Hills, was put up for sale in January. It has since been purchased with the new owners committing to keeping a boat launch.

Highlands East theatre troupe resurrected
After overcoming some challenges, and a hiatus partially due to COVID, Highlands East had its theatre company back. The Loop Troupe Little Theatre hit the stage once again with two shows on the Mother's Day weekend, May 11-12, 2024. "The future of the Loop Troupe Little Theatre group in Wilberforce had looked bleak," spokesperson, Mary Barker, said. However, there was a little bit of money in the theatre group's bank account that had to be dealt with. Treasurer, Gill Stephen, called a meeting in the spring of 2023 and the company was back.

Housing now on Tim's menu
Eighteen months ago, Paige Chapman had never heard of Haliburton County. Now, she and her partner, Mike Garland, are spearheading an initiative in the Highlands providing affordable housing to approximately half their staff members at the Minden and Haliburton Tim Hortons restaurants. The pair moved to the area from Saint John, New Brunswick in February 2023. Paige said she's leaning into the family business, with her parents owning four Tim Hortons franchises on the east coast. She told *The Highlander* a deal to take over the two local restaurants would be finalized in May, 2024.

New Tim Hortons owners add housing.

Next week May to August.

Ryall elected vice chair of new health unit

By Mike Baker

The recently merged health unit covering Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton, Northumberland and Peterborough counties met briefly for the first time Jan. 2, where Highlands East deputy mayor, Cec Ryall, was elected vice chair of the new board.

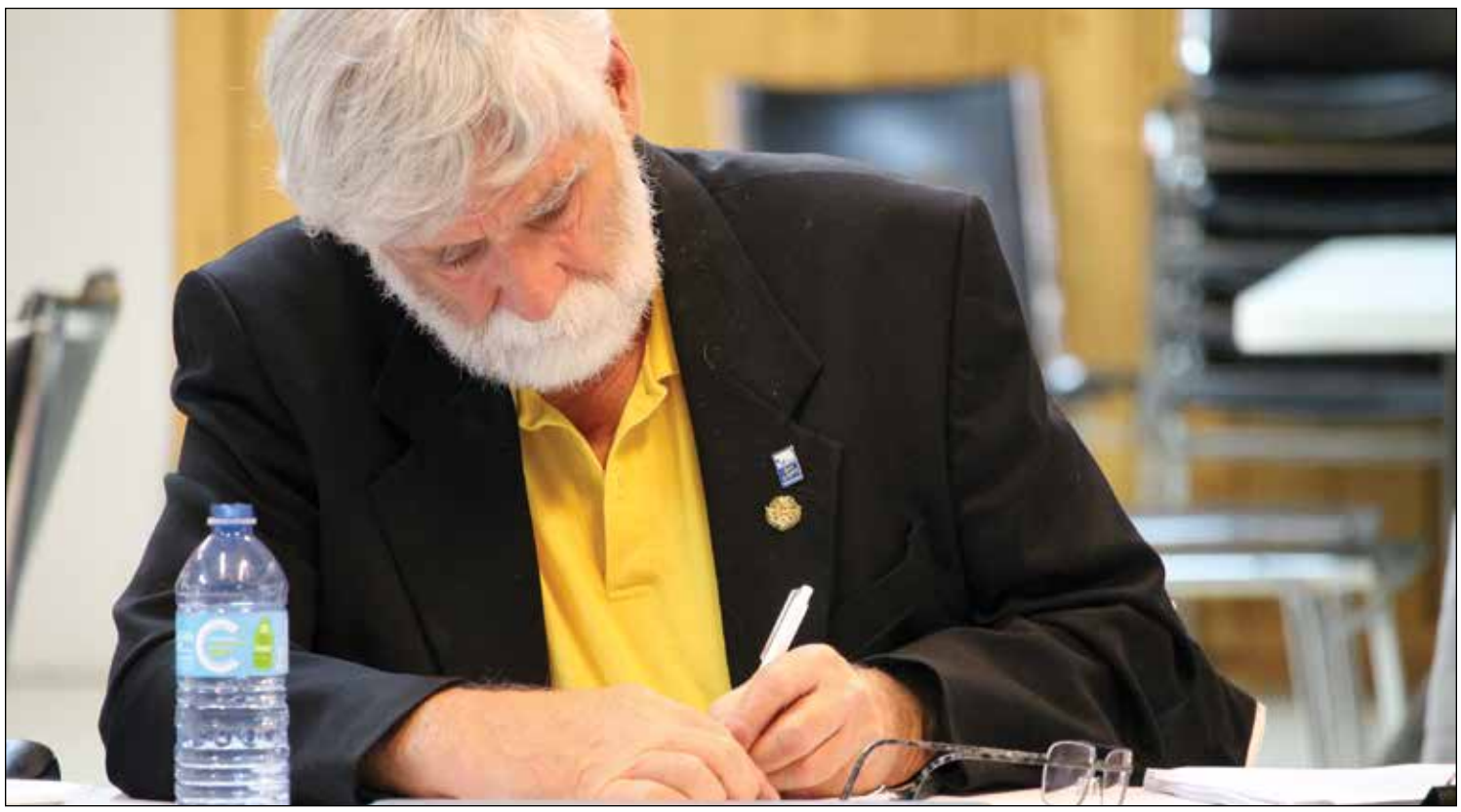
Following months of debate and analysis, the boards of the old Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge district health unit (HKPR) and Peterborough Public Health (PPH) elected to amalgamate their two entities in December, with the new partnership ratified effective Jan. 1.

The new organization will be known as the Haliburton Kawartha Northumberland Peterborough health unit (HKNP).

In its first order of business, the new board voted to elect Ron Black, deputy mayor of Selwyn township, as chair, with Ryall serving as the second in command.

"It's being done more so for the infrastructure and to have more resources to perform what we're already doing now. There's going to be a lot of people thinking this is not a good idea… but our public health units are in trouble," Ryall said in a December interview. "At the very least, we hope this will stop service reductions and staffing issues… I'm very optimistic we're going to come out of this as a better unit."

HKPR projected a 2024/25 fiscal year-end deficit of $188,476, while PPH anticipated a $1.2 million budget shortfall this year. The Ontario government has committed just over $10.1 million to cover all merger-related expenses over the next year. Money can also be used for capital improvements and program stabilization.



Cec Ryall will serve as the County representative on the new HKNP board. *File*.

Public health units deliver a wide range of services, including immunization clinics, early childhood programs, sexual health clinics, water quality testing, and food and nutrition training, while offering support in mental health, harm reduction, pregnancy and parenting. The board will meet Jan. 16.

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GARDENS OF HALIBURTON

Time for school boosters

The Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit is notifying parents and guardians of the upcoming immunization requirements for the 2024-2025 school year. It's for students in Junior Kindergarten to Grade 11 (birth years 2008–2020).

The health unit said it will be sending out letters starting Jan. 13, to students with missing or incomplete immunization information.

They said if parents and guardians do not receive a notice, no further action is required.

"This campaign is essential in meeting the immunization compliance standards under the Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA) that requires students to have up-to-date immunizations or an exemption to attend school," the health unit said.

Key dates include: March 17 - suspension notices will be issued for any students without an updated record/exemption; April 1 - suspensions begin for students who are not in compliance with the ISPA.

Catch-up immunization clinics for students without family healthcare providers

Details of catch-up immunization clinics will be communicated as they become available on the health unit's website hkpr.on.ca. It also encourages families to use its new online Immunization update portal at hkpr.on.ca/Immunization. *(Lisa Gervais).*

TLDSB is sending letters to parents and guardians starting Jan. 13. *File*.

The township is doing a survey and meeting with taxpayers. *File*.

Minden Hills wants input

The Township of Minden Hills has put out a call for community feedback as part of its strategic planning process.

The municipality is working with consultant, Arising Collective, on a community engagement program.

"We are looking to: clarify what people in our community care about most; determine Minden Hills' assets and attributes; appreciate who we are today and what Minden Hills could be noted for in five, 10 years," the township said in a news release.

They said people can participate in an online survey – open until Feb. 2 at 4:30 p.m. There will also be focus group sessions with businesses, organizations, and groups in the community, by invitation.

There will be an in-person session Jan. 29, at 6:30 p.m., at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena – community rooms one and two (55 Parkside St., Minden). There will also be a virtual town hall Jan. 30, at 7 p.m. Contact lfitton@mindenhills.ca to register.

For the survey, go to surveymonkey.com/r/MindenHillsSurvey (paper copies will be available at facilities such as the arena, cultural centre, municipal office and the Scotch Line landfill). They need to be returned by Jan. 31, 2025 at 4 p.m. to be included in the process.

"Should you have any questions about the community engagement program, please let us know. We look forward to hearing from you and appreciate your support as we develop the community priority plan that will help to guide Minden Hills into the future," the release said. *(Lisa Gervais).*

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VANDA TREISER INITIATIVES

The spirit of giving

The Minden Community Food Centre wrapped up its 2024 holiday hamper campaign Dec. 18, with the initiative supporting 179 households. Food bank manager, Jean Munroe, said each hamper included fixings for a complete Christmas breakfast and dinner, toys and gift cards – all donated by the community. She noted there was enough food to feed 547 people and toys for 206 children. “Thank you to our donors, to our wonderful volunteers who are the backbone of our operation, and to everyone who donated in some way to our holiday hamper program,” Munroe said. *(Mike Baker).*

Above: Cliff and Wendy Harding were on-hand most of the day, helping to keep spirits high among food bank staff, volunteers, and hamper recipients. Right: Colby Coumbs and Chloe Hartwig volunteered their time to assist with hamper delivery at the Minden Community Centre. Right: *Submitted*.

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Carl warms them up in the chalet

On Dec. 28, Sir Sam's Ski/Ride served up an apres-ski with tunes by local musician Carl Dixon. The chalet was full of snow enthusiasts coming in from the hill to warm up, have a couple of drinks and some food, and listen to the songs of the long-time crowd favourite.

Above left: Carl Dixon warms up the crowd. Top right: a young man staying safe indoors while listening to Dixon. Inset: lots of laughs and good times for the skiers and boarders. Middle right: the kitchen was swamped. Above right: warm sweaters and nachos. *Photos by Justin Belanger.*

Canoe FM Begins On-Air Testing on 97.1 FM in Minden!

Canoe FM is excited to announce that **Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED)** has authorized us to begin on-air testing of the permanent transmitting facilities at our repeater station, **CKHA-FM-1**, broadcasting on **97.1 FM** out of **Minden, Ontario.**

Testing will begin on **December 17, 2024**, and will conclude no later than **January 28, 2025.**

We value your feedback during this testing period. If you have any **comments or concerns,** please reach out to us by:

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After the testing has been approved 97.1 Minden & 100.9 Haliburton will be permanent frequencies in our County.

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Hal High hosts Nordic skiers

Haliburton Highlands Secondary School hosted the Haliburton International Nordic Ski Race Dec. 18. The event is held annually at Glebe Park. It featured individual races, and sprint relays. Six secondary schools and some elementary school students took part. Coach Karen Gervais said their top finishers were: Eric Mueller (first in novice boys); Brady Hamilton (third in novice boys); Annika Gervais (third in junior girls); Winston Ramsdale (third in junior boys); Tristan Humphries (fourth in junior boys) and Olivia Gruppe (fourth in senior girls). The two HHSS senior girls' relay teams were also second and third in their heat and the junior boys team was also second. *(Lisa Gervais)*.

Top left: a young athlete catches some extra speed around the final corner. Top middle: a racer in a nice tucked turn coming around the final corner of the course. Top right: a competitor skis hard through the sprint course. Above: racers are lined up waiting for their respective teammates to tag them in a relay race. *Photos by Justin Belanger.*

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STARS of the WEEK

CARTER MCCORD

His effectiveness on the faceoff dot as well as play-driving initiatives served the team well.

CHASE CASEY

This grinding winger played a solid forecheck, timely penalty kills, and offensive threat all weekend.

WYATT BRAUN

A great weekend propped up with timely assists, solid defensive work and hard shots. *Photos by Tim Tofflemire.*

Left: Storm goalie Kolby Hogg prepares for a rolling puck. Right: Celebrating a goal. *Photos by Lisa Gervais*.

Storm record win and a tie

This past weekend marked a successful set of games for the U11 Rep Cottage Country Building Supplies squad.

On Saturday morning (Jan. 4), we squared off against a Millbrook team that had our number the last outing.

The S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena was full of Storm fans that came out to support our team.

Sin bin trouble early put us on the penalty kill in the first minute of the game, but a hard-nosed shift from Chase Casey put us on the board. A follow-up shift by Casey tallied another marker to hold an early 2-0 lead with a nice rebound goal.

From there, it was full steam ahead for the Storm.

Nolan Carpenter had a lone man rush that found the twine midway through the first, followed by a quick exchange from Carter McCord with a nice wrister from the slot.

The first two periods were marked with extensive penalty kills from the hard work of Everett Bjelis and Lucas Lawson, just missing on some shorthanded tallies.

Heading into the pivotal third, goalie Kolby Hogg held a tight cage, rolling out a shutout with strong crease play.

Penalty troubles ultimately surrendered a couple of tallies but McCord put the final marker on the board to secure a 5-2 win with a great team effort across the board.

On Sunday (Jan. 5), we had another opportunity for a revenge game against the Newcastle Stars. Knowing a full effort was going to be provided from our opposition, we came out ready to play the hard-nosed affair.

Will Brown tallied our first goal with a timely shot over the shoulder of the opposition.

Solid forechecking from the likes of Miller Brown, Ethan Draker, and Jase Jones laid the foundation for a follow-up goal from McCord.

On the back end, staunch defensive work from goalie Mason Bishop, and defenders Wyatt Braun and Olivia Emmerson kept the competition to a 2-1 lead rolling into the third.

A wicked wrister from the point off the crossbar from D-man Beau Gilmour left a rebound out front, which was put away by McCord.

Unfortunately, a late period push on the PK saw the Stars tie the game and that's how it ended. A rigorous game tied at 3-3. We missed the tenacity of Jackson Mihalic over the two home games. *Submitted.*

Noteworthy: The U15 Rep Haliburton Timbermart team qualified for the International Silverstick Tournament and will be playing in Forest, Ontario this weekend. The U13 Curry Chevrolet team qualified for the International Silverstick Tournament and will be playing in Pelham this weekend.

SCORE BOARD

Jan. 4

- U13 LL Curry Chevrolet vs Sturgeon 6-3 W
- U11 Rep Cottage Country Building Supplies vs Millbrook 5-2 W
- U13 Rep Cheryl Smith RE/MAX vs Durham 7-0 W
- U13 Casey Water Wells & Geothermal vs Mariposa 9-0 W
- U11 Minden Carquest vs Millbrook 4-3 W
- U15 LL The Pepper Mill Steak & Pasta House vs Durham 4-0 W

Jan. 5

- U11 Rep Cottage Country Building Supplies vs Newcastle 3-3 T
- U11 Minden Carquest vs Millbrook 9-4 L

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Huskies co-captain Ty Petrou keeps his eyes on the prize in a 4-1 win over the Spirit Dec. 29. *Photo by Justin Belanger.*

Huskies load up for playoffs

By Mike Baker

Haliburton County Huskies coach Ryan Ramsay predicts it'll be a rat race for playoff positioning over the next several weeks, with the Ontario Junior Hockey League (OJHL) regular season into its penultimate month.

The hometown team sits third in the East Conference with 53 points from 37 games, boasting a record of 26 wins, 10 losses and one overtime defeat. They're four points back of the Toronto Jr. Canadiens in second place, and nine behind the table-topping Trenton Golden Hawks.

It was a busy festive period for the Huskies, who played five games between Dec. 20 and Jan. 6, going 3-1-1. They bested the Markham Royals 5-2 in road action Dec. 20; fell to the Golden Hawks 2-0 on Dec. 21; defeated the Stouffville Spirit 4-1 on Dec. 29; and beat nearby neighbours the Lindsay Muskies 7-2 in the 'Battle of Hwy. 35' on New Year's Eve.

The team dropped its first game of the new year Jan. 6, a 4-3 double overtime loss on the road to the Cobourg Cougars.

"I think we played pretty well for the most part over the holidays - we had some good crowds in here [at S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena], which always helps with the atmosphere and the energy levels of the boys," Ramsay said. "I like the look of our team… I'm seeing improvements every game."

With the OJHL trade deadline Jan. 10, Ramsay has been busy tweaking his young squad.

There have been six new additions since Dec. 20 - six-foot-three defenceman Luke Hampel arrived from the King Rebellion in exchange for forward Adam Smeeton and blueliner Ryan Fairbairn. Ramsay said Hampel is a large-bodied defenceman who will be relied on to play big minutes down the stretch. He had five points in 19 games with the Rebellion this season.

The rights to 20-year-old left winger Tai York came via the Cobourg Cougars - where he played for part of the 2021/22 season. The Cougars secured defenceman Carson Littlejohn in the deal. York has enjoyed a blistering start to his Huskies career, putting up nine points in five games after scoring five in 14 for the Sioux Falls Stampede in the United States Hockey League.

With rookie goaltender Carter Nadon sidelined for the remainder of the season through injury, Ramsay went shopping for a backstop who could compete for Tyler Hodges for starts. He landed on Stephen Toltl, a 19-year-old who played in six games for the Spirit this season, going 2-4 and boasting a 2.69 goals against average and .921 save percentage. He most recently represented the Greater Sudbury Cubs in the Northern Ontario Junior Hockey League.

Daniel Vasic, an 18-year-old centreman, arrived via the Leamington Flyers - where he put up 18 points in 22 games.

A fifth deal was announced Jan. 7, with forward Nolan Ling returning to the OJHL after a season-and-a-half with the Gatineau Olympiques of the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League, where he put up 34 points in 90 games. He previously appeared for the Golden Hawks, Cougars and Toronto Patriots during the 2021/22 and 2022/21 seasons.

There was another move on Jan. 8, with Ramsay securing 18-year-old centreman Kieran Litterick from the Pickering Panthers. The coach said the six-foot-two forward is a "big time" improvement down the middle. Ryder Dagenais and William Stewart were sent to Pickering as part of the deal.

"We think we have a really good team now, but everyone else is improving too," Ramsay said. "There's always a need to get better - there's no such thing as a perfect team."

Ramsay will be hoping his young charges are as close as possible to perfect Jan. 11 as the Canadiens visit Minden for a much anticipated four-pointer. Puck drop is set for 4 p.m.

"JRC is always a good team - we're right on their tail and trying our best to chase them," Ramsay said. "It's a big game - always an interesting match-up… we're both fast and skilled teams. We're going to have to play hard, not turn the puck over, and stay out of the penalty box, which has been a little bit of a problem lately."

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Learn about Lapine at Agnes Jamieson

By Mike Baker

Shannon Kelly says anyone looking for an education on a core piece of the County's cultural history should make a point to visit Minden's Agnes Jamieson Gallery over the next few weeks.

The facility reopened Jan. 2, with a display of paintings from renowned artist André Lapine hanging on its walls. Kelly, manager of cultural services for the Township of Minden Hills, said she always likes to usher in the new year by honouring the man who served as the gallery's initial inspiration.

"He's the reason the gallery was established in 1981 by Agnes Jamieson, because she had access to this amazing collection of pieces by Lapine, who was quite well known throughout his career," Kelly said. "He lived his twilight years in the community and, really, finished his career in Minden. He's buried in Minden with his wife. So, it's a nice opportunity for us to reflect on his contributions and bring these beautiful pieces out for people to enjoy."

The gallery has around 100 original pieces in its collection – many of them donated by Minden's former reeve Frank Welch. Kelly selected about 30 pieces to be featured this year.

"The selected pieces reflect the four themes that Lapine was known for, that were his main strengths: his drawings and illustrative work; paintings of horses; his fascination with light and how he captured that in his paintings; and his work with snow. He had this ability to really define different winter landscapes and make them jump off the canvas," Kelly said.

While there aren't any new Lapine pieces, Kelly said there are some that haven't been displayed for several years. There's also the usual favourites, notably *Horses Hauling Logs* (1946) and *Winter Storm* (1945).

Alongside the Lapine display, there will be nine pieces showcased in the Kirkwood Gallery that Kelly says are all new additions – four from Tory Hill-based Gary Blundell and Victoria Ward, who brought their Burner Herzog exhibit to the gallery in 2024; four from Robert Niezen, a Peterborough-based artist who last had his work displayed in 2022's Cross Cut exhibit; and a pastel piece of the Gull River from the late Lois Raw, a County-based artist.

The displays will remain in place until Feb. 8.

Looking ahead, Kelly said 2025 is shaping up to be a busy year for the gallery.

"We have a ton of stuff going on – we're doing our Family Day open house in February in partnership with the Minden Hills Cultural Centre Foundation (MHCCF). We have documentary screenings every month with different themes. We've got March Break activities every morning throughout the break," she said.

The gallery is also hosting its second annual Archie Stouffer Elementary School (ASES) student art exhibit, opening in February. This year's theme will see local youth apply their own interpretation to the biodiversity of The Land Between and what it means to them.

Robert Wong and Nadine Papp hang the André Lapine original Enchanted Woods, now on display at Agnes Jamieson Gallery. *Submitted*.

Kelly said MHCCF donated $250 to ASES to purchase art supplies for the students to use for their pieces.

"Last year's event sort of just came together but it was very well received – we had a lot of people on opening night and the kids were so excited to see what they had made up on the wall," Kelly said. "It's all about inspiring youth to be creative and show them the possibilities [of having work featured professionally]."

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OBITUARIES

In Loving Memory of

Norm Mills

1944–2024

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Norm Mills, who died unexpectedly of a heart attack on December 15, 2024 at the age of 80. He leaves behind a legacy of adventure, dedication, and love that touched the lives of all who knew him.

A man of many talents and even greater personality, Norm made his mark as an auctioneer, known for his sharp wit and magnetic presence. His voice was unmistakable, and his auctions were always lively and filled with energy. He was also an accomplished plane builder, a craft that allowed him to combine his technical skill with his love of aviation.

Son of Allan and Lorine Mills. Norm is survived by his sister in law Sylvia Mills (Bill Mills, deceased), and sister Margaret Mills. Brother in law to Don Fleischer (Sandra) and Joan and Chuck Acker.

Above all, Norm was a devoted husband to Betty and a proud father to Sarah (Jeff Miller) and Stu (Jocelyne Turner). He was a longtime dog lover and leaves behind his longtime companion Rocky. He taught all those around him the values of hard work, creativity and living life to the fullest.

Norm had a big heart and an even bigger personality. He was a man of great character, warmth, and humor, and his presence could light up any room. He was a lover of dogs, and his cherished companions brought him joy and comfort throughout his life. His favorite place was his cottage at Little Hawk Lake, where he found peace and relaxation surrounded by nature.

Norm is survived by his beloved wife, children, grandchildren, Isaac, Katie, Liam, Brynn and Eloïse, cherished cousins Jim and Mary, Jane and Jim Farrell, Helen Bull and many close friends who will miss him dearly. A celebration of his life will be held in the spring of 2025, with details to follow.

A special thank you to the talented healthcare team at Peterborough Regional Healthcare Centre who cared for Norm with great compassion.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to Snowflake Meadows Animal Rescue and Rehoming (cheques only), Peterborough Regional Health Centre, Local Foodbanks, and Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation in Norm's memory and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.

www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

In Loving Memory of

Paul Yanchus

Peacefully at Haliburton Hospital with his family by his side on Wednesday January 1, 2025 in his 76th year. Beloved husband and best friend of Elizabeth Lewis. Loving father of Karli (Glyn) and Joshua (Jessie). Dear brother of Fran (Mike), Patty, Kitty (Pete) and Theresa (Jon). Fondly remembered by his grandchildren Andie, Marion, Gareth, Abigail, Isabella, Gabriel, Gianna, Rosalyn, Kolbe and Elijah. Predeceased by his brothers Robert and Michael. Also lovingly remembered by his many nieces and nephews. Paul was a Stone Mason and High School Teacher for many years. He was a devoted member of West Guilford Baptist Church. He enjoyed inventing, building and had a very creative nature.

Visitation & Funeral Service

Friends are invited to call at **WEST GUILFORD BAPTIST CHURCH** 1083 Nila Road, West Guilford, Ontario on Wednesday morning, January 8, 2025 for a Funeral Service at 11 o'clock. (Visitation one hour prior). As an expression of sympathy, donations to the West Guilford Baptist Church or the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation would be appreciated by the family. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209.

www.communityfuneralhomes.com

In Loving Memory of

Frederick Roy Chapple (Fred)

It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of Fred on Wednesday, January 1, 2025 at the Peterborough Regional Health Centre.

Forever loved by his wife Joan (nee Gregory). Survived by his sons with his first wife Nancy (nee Cooper); Richard (Angela), Steven (Maritess) and by Joan's sons; Mark (Sharon), David (Dianne). Loving grandfather of Scott (Clo), Jeffrey (Emily), Hunter, Josh, Tom and Max. Predeceased by his siblings; Eleanor (Gordon), Margaret (Michael), Dorothy (Murray), John (Shirley) and survived by his brother-in-law Fred (Barbara). Uncle to Bruce, Doug, Nick and Karen.

Fred was born in Toronto to Edith and Roy Chapple on August 12, 1940. He delighted in riding the trains as a boy up in the engine with his Dad. He began singing at an early age in the choir at Victoria-Royce Presbyterian Church in Toronto. He continued to sing in choirs throughout his life – Zion and Highland Hills United churches, Highlands Festival Singers, Highlands Male Chorus. He served on committees and chaired boards at church, Highway 35 Assoc., Festival Singers and Highlands Opera Studio to name a few.

Fred graduated from Western Tech where he had made lifelong friends. He played snare drum in a high school military band and was active in swimming and badminton. He enjoyed scouting and proudly attained the rank of Queen Scout. From high school he went on to Ryerson and followed his interest in Chemistry. His long and varied career began as a research chemist in the CIL paint lab, and led to marketing for Sears. He moved to Carnarvon and his beloved 12 Mile Lake to own/operate Four Seasons Store and trained as a butcher. After 20 years he turned to Real Estate and became a sales agent for Remax. Wherever he worked, his joy of life and positive outlook made him well loved.

He loved hard work and sports and hard work and new adventures and hard work and travel. But most of all he loved his wife and his family. When Fred began dialysis he became a member of the peer support group for the Canadian Kidney Foundation and offered encouragement and support to people about to begin the fearful home dialysis journey. His battle with failing kidneys and heart disease was long and difficult. He faced his challenges with dignity and good humor and a determination to live.

Special thanks to the doctors and staff at the Peterborough hospital. Whether it be the ICU, Heart Unit, Home Dialysis Unit, Medical Unit or Stroke Rehab his cooperative, sunny nature was embraced and he was treated with skill and loving compassion to the very last moment of his life. We are also grateful for the outstanding support received from many cherished friends, particularly Wayne and Bonnie Black and Don and Jessie Pflug. He will be remembered for his love of life, sunny nature, quiet ways and kindness to others. We will so miss that twinkle in his eye and ready wit.

Friends are invited to visit family at the Highland Hills United Church, 21 Newcastle St., Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0 on Saturday, April 5, 2025 from 12:00 o'clock noon until the time of the Memorial Service to Celebrate Fred's Life at 1:00 pm. Reception to follow at the church (downstairs). Cremation has taken place.

Memorial Donations to the Kidney Foundation (Ontario Division) (cheques only) or the Peterborough Regional Health Foundation would be appreciated by the family and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.

www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

In Loving Memory of

Paul Neal Hazen

Paul passed away peacefully, on December 23, 2024 at the Owen Sound Hospital with his wife Mara and his beloved puppy-dog Picasso by his side.

Paul was born February 17, 1945, son of Margaret and Neal Hazen. Predeceased by his parents and his oldest son, Robert. Survived by his brother Karl, many cousins and his youngest son, Aaron. Paul was from Colpoy's Bay, Ontario, formerly from Wilberforce, Ontario and Hamilton before that. He was a Dofasco retiree.

Cremation has taken place. Arrangements entrusted to Grey Bruce Cremation and Burial Services.

In Loving Memory of

Lois Jean Boice-Dugan (nee Barry)

Passed away peacefully at Hyland Crest, Minden, Ontario on Saturday January 4, 2025 at the age of 96.

Beloved wife of the late Maxwell Rexford Boice (1981) and the late Carl Dugan (2018). Loving mother of Jean (Tim) Hancock, Judy (Wayne) Johnson and Barry (Kendra) Boice. Loving grandmother of Ben Thomas (Cassie), Amanda-Jo Thomas, Sarah Morrell (Wade), Mitch Johnson (Karen), Zachary Boice (Cassidy), Joshua Boice (Abby), Joseph Boice (Alexius), and great grandmother of Grace, William, Rose, Connor, Liam, Aidan, Jade, Jaz, Miles, Mackenzie, Wyatt and Luke. Dear sister of Naida (the late Lyle) McKay, Marlene (the late Bill) Schell and predeceased by Helen (Grenville) Schell, Wilford (Barbara) Barry and Eileen (Brant) Stamp. Fondly remembered by the extended Dugan family and by many nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Friends are invited to visit the family at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Bobcaygeon Rd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0, on Monday, January 13, 2025 from 12:00 o'clock noon until the time of the Service to Celebrate Lois' Life at 1:00 pm. Reception to follow in the Monk-Cray Family Centre. Spring Interment at the Maple Lake Untied Church Cemetery.

Memorial Donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (H.H.H.S.F.) or Salvation Army Fenelon Falls would be appreciated by the family.

www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

In Loving Memory of

Daniel "Dan" Kay

(Resident of Haliburton Lake, Ontario)

Peacefully, at Huronia Hospice in Penetanguishene on December 25, 2024, in his 69th year. He leaves behind his beloved partner, Doreen Kellestine, who shared his love of adventure and travel. Dan was the proud and loving dad of Kelly (Mark) and DJ, and the best grandpa to Hayden and Maddie, who adored him. He was a dear brother to Dave (Brenda - predeceased) and Jim (Karen) and is fondly remembered by his nephews Jason (Candace) and Jake, as well as his nieces Jennifer, Kate (Eric), and Karrie (Brandon). He was also the world's best "Step Dan" to Darel (Tracy), Dayle (Kirk), and Katie (Mitch) and their kids—Mckinley, Sawyer, Brenden, Emma, Josie, and Jack. Haliburton Lake and all the people whose lives he touched will truly never be the same without him. Also remembered by his former wife and loving friend Linda Kay. Dan's parents, Ross and Eileen Kay, and his brother Ron predeceased him, but their legacy lives on in the warmth and generosity he shared with everyone he met.

Dan had a huge heart and an even bigger life. He served his community as a Councillor with the Municipality of Dysart et al for five terms, and for over three decades he ran K Enterprises, helping families improve their homes. When he wasn't working or helping others, Dan was planning the next adventure, often dreaming about what was around the corner with Doreen.

Those who knew him will always remember his kind spirit, his humour, and the way he always made everyone feel at home. Haliburton Lake has lost one of its brightest lights.

A Remembrance Gathering

Friends are invited to call at the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209 on Saturday January 4, 2025 from 1-3 p.m. Please bring your memories of Dan to share with others. Casual attire please. As an expression of sympathy donations to the Huronia Hospice or the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation would be appreciated by the family.

www.communityfuneralhomes.com

OBITUARIES

In Loving Memory of

William "Bill" Reynolds

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Bill at Kingston Health Sciences Centre on Sunday, December 22, 2024, in his 75th year. Dear father of Clayton and Beth. Fondly remembered by his grandchildren Liam, Isla, and Everleigh. He will also be fondly remembered by his many friends and neighbours including J'Nan, Bruce (Shirley), Ron (Debbie), David and countless others whose lives he touched. Bill dedicated many years of his career to General Motors, where his hard work and commitment were deeply valued. After his retirement, he relished time spent at his home in West Guilford and exploring the natural beauty of the Haliburton Highlands, a place close to his heart. He leaves behind a legacy of love, laughter, and cherished memories that will forever be treasured by his family and friends.

A Remembrance Gathering

Friends called to visit with the family at the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209 on Thursday afternoon, January 2, 2025 from 2 - 4 p.m. Interment West Guilford Baptist Church Cemetery. As an expression of sympathy, donations to the Haliburton 4Cs or the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation would be appreciated by the family.

Community Funeral Home
www.communityfuneralhomes.com

In Loving Memory of

Jane "Jenny" Thomas (nee Campbell)

Jane Anne (Jenny) Thomas (nee Campbell) was born August 17, 1932 in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, the sixth of seven children. She grew up in the Great Depression and the Second World War, events that shaped her. Jenny was an athlete, with promise as a swimmer and a dancer. She excelled academically, although it wasn't until she had raised her family that she completed degrees in geography and education, becoming a primary school teacher at the age of 50.

Jenny married the love of her life, Richard Thomas, on April 11, 1953, when she was 20 years old. They remained married 53 years, until his death in 2006, and had four children: Pan (Mitchell), Jeremy (Margaret), Sarah and Nell (Bob), and five grandchildren: Miranda, Eli, Bradley, Rohan, Nicky.

Jenny was a passionate woman, with many interests and loves. She was devoted to her family and was most fulfilled as a mother, grandmother, sister and aunt. She loved growing her garden to feed her family, cultivating flowers, cooking, baking, sewing, knitting, singing and reading; Jenny was vastly well-read and favoured Shakespeare and works of philosophy in her later years. Jenny was known and admired by many for her generosity, lively wit, and outspoken commitment to her humanistic values.

Jenny was a remarkable survivor: she recovered from typhoid fever as a child, beat cancer twice, survived Covid twice, and fought her way back from three serious strokes. Impressively, she stayed in the farmhouse she and Richard built in Burks Falls after his death, and even after her first stroke in 2010. At 85, she moved to Minden, Ontario, close to her youngest daughter, Nell, for the last seven years of her life. Jenny suffered a final stroke on November 4, and died peacefully on December 30 at home. In her last days, she enjoyed precious moments with her children and grandchildren. Jenny - as mom, gramma, aunt and friend - will be missed and remembered with great love and affection.

We profusely thank all the people who cared for Jenny during her final months - the WONDERFUL staff at HHHS, the Gardens of Haliburton, Dr. Norm Bottum, Jerry Griffin, Kathy Mclaughlin, Canon Joan Cavanaugh, Rhonda Kreller, Michelle Miscio, and Beth Archibald.

Private Family Arrangements

The family is planning a ceremony at the Richard Thomas Memorial Park in Burks Falls this summer. She would be honoured and grateful if donations were made to her favourite charity, Doctors Without Borders, in lieu of flowers. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209.

Community Funeral Home
www.communityfuneralhomes.com

In Loving Memory of

Brenda Lynn Dovell (nee Smith)

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of a beautiful soul, Brenda Lynn Dovell (nee Smith) at Haliburton Hospital on December 17th, 2024 at the age of 69.

Brenda is predeceased by her parents Leslie (Sonny) and Arthella Smith, and her brother Dale.

Brenda was an amazing person who lived her life with an unwavering strength that took her through to the end of her days with immense dignity and courage. She was kind, compassionate, and generous, traits that impacted so many lives. Humble and unassuming, her words and deeds leave a lasting legacy that her modesty would not allow her to personally recognize.

Brenda is survived by the love of her life for over 24 years, Russell Dovell. She will be missed dearly by daughter Patty (Justin), son Peter (Ashley), stepdaughters Sarah (Russell) and Tabitha (Kirk), sister Laureen (Cleve).

She created beautiful memories for her grandchildren, who filled her heart with so much love, joy and pride: Paige, Josh, Jesse, Kaydance, Liam, Aria, Oliver, Milo, and Crew.

Brenda leaves behind many family and friends who loved her dearly. Although she is gone she will be in their hearts forever.

A very special thank you to the doctors, nurses and staff for their excellent care of Brenda and the whole family while she was at hospital. Words cannot express our gratitude. Brenda expressed daily how much she appreciated their wonderful care and support.

As per Brenda's wishes cremation has taken place. There will be no service held.

In Loving Memory of

Susan "Sue" Scheffee (nee Maxwell)

(Resident of Haliburton)

At her residence on Thursday evening, January 2, 2025, in her 69th year. Beloved wife and best friend of the late Gordon Scheffee. Loving mother of Andrew, Jessica, and Elisa. Loving sister of Malcolm, Lois, Bonnie, Cheryl, Diane, and Cathy. She is fondly remembered by her many grandchildren Jaylah, Camryn, Noah, Alexa, Luca, Jaxon, and Hudson. Predeceased by her parents Aubrey & Hazel Maxwell. Sue is also lovingly remembered by many nieces and nephews. Sue was a Registered Practical Nurse in the Community for many years. She enjoyed fishing, boating, snowmobiling, music, and most of all, her grandchildren.

Visitation & Funeral Service

Friends are invited to call at the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209 on Saturday afternoon, January 11, 2025, for a Funeral Service in the Chapel at 1 o'clock. (Visitation one prior). Reception to follow at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #129. As an expression of sympathy, donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation would be appreciated by the family.

Community Funeral Home
www.communityfuneralhomes.com

In Loving Memory of

Yves Lamoureux

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Yves at Hillside Park Retirement Home in Elliot Lake, Ontario, on Wednesday morning, December 25, 2024, in his 92nd year. Beloved husband of Margaret Gimpoli. Yves enjoyed a full and vibrant life by Talbot Lake, where he embraced community involvement. He was an active member of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #519 and Branch #636 and a dedicated parishioner of St. Margaret Mary Roman Catholic Church and Our Lady of Fatima.

Visitation & Funeral Service

Friends may call at the **COBOCONK COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 6644 Hwy. #35 Coboconk, Ontario (705) 454-3913 on Friday morning, January 3, 2025 for a Funeral Service at 11 o'clock (Visitation one hour prior). Interment to follow in Lakeview Cemetery, Kirkfield. As expressions of sympathy donations to the charities of your choice.

Community Funeral Home
www.communityfuneralhomes.com

SERVICES

SKILLED HANDYMAN - Available for renovations, trim, tile, bathroom, deck, basement, flooring and paint. Please call or text Bob at 705-457-6190

HANDYMAN - Carpentry, general repairs. Call or text Doug at 416-889-8534

WANTED

J & D TOWING & SERVICE STATION - will pay top dollar for scrap cars. We also provide towing services as well as flat bed. Call Jim 705-447-2113

DIE HARD FISHERMAN - looking for some other die hard fishermen. Let's go fishing! Please call Ray at 705-457-3283

FOR RENT

SELF-CONTAINED STORAGE UNITS for rent - Industrial Park Road, various sizes, call (705) 457-1224

TOP -TO- BOTTOM
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SOLUTIONS FOR JANUARY 9

1 A	2 P	3 E	4 M	5 A	6 N	■	7 D	8 U	9 P	10 E	■	11 I	12 H	13 N
14 N	A	R	I	T	A	■	15 H	A	R	M	16 S	W	A	Y
17 T	R	A	S	H	C	18 O	L	L	E	C	T	O	R	S
19 I	T	S	C	O	L	D	■	■	20 B	E	A	N	I	E
21 S	E	E	U	M	■	22 I	23 F	24 F	I	E	R	■	■	■
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32 C	33 L	34 A	35 S	36 S	Y	■	■	■	■	37 O	G	D	E	N	S
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42 E	X	O	T	I	43 C	D	A	N	C	44 E	45 R	46 S	■	■	■
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51 C	52 H	53 E	A	T	S	■	■	■	54 E	55 M	P	T	I	E	S
56 H	O	R	T	I	C	57 U	58 L	T	U	R	I	S	T	S
59 A	L	I	E	N	A	T	E	■	60 S	I	M	O	N	E
61 R	Y	E	■	62 G	N	A	T	■	63 S	T	E	N	O	S

SOLUTIONS FOR DECEMBER 19

1 I	2 L	3 I	4 V	5 E	■	6 W	7 H	8 A	9 C	■	10 S	11 A	12 C	13 K
14 M	A	N	I	N	■	15 H	I	S	N	■	16 E	V	A	N
17 D	I	N	E	T	18 T	E	S	E	T	■	19 R	E	N	E
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24 L	25 E	26 C	27 T	E	R	■	28 S	29 H	E	R	■	■	■	■
30 A	C	H	O	S	E	31 N	C	U	R	F	32 E	33 W	■	■
34 C	O	I	F	■	■	35 E	E	N	■	■	36 W	A	37 C	38 O
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51 C	U	R	T	A	I	52 L	53 W	A	G	G	54 I	55 N	56 G	■
57 O	P	A	H	■	58 E	Y	E	R	O	L	L	I	N	59 G
60 M	E	M	E	■	61 N	F	L	D	■	62 E	L	L	A	S
63 A	R	A	L	■	64 S	T	D	S	■	65 Y	E	S	T	O

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6	2	7	1	4	5	8	9	3
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HELP WANTED

Township of Algonquin Highlands requires an

Administrative Assistant

The Township of Algonquin Highlands is seeking applications from qualified individuals for the position of Administrative Assistant.

Algonquin Highlands offers a competitive salary, compressed workweek, and excellent benefits package. Join a dedicated team that strives to make us the best place to live, work and play.

Visit our website at: www.algonquinhighlands.ca for the complete job description.

Qualified candidates are invited to submit a cover letter and resume by **3:00 p.m. on Monday, January 20, 2025** to:

Dawn Mugford-Guay
Human Resources Coordinator
Township of Algonquin Highlands
1123 North Shore Road
Algonquin Highlands, ON K0M 1S0
Email: dmugfordguay@algonquinhighlands.ca

Join the BIA. Do your part.

Haliburton Business Improvement Area (BIA) is seeking an enthusiastic and organized Administrator to play a vital role in supporting the BIA's mission to enhance the vibrancy and success of Haliburton's downtown business community.

For more details contact brandon.nimigon@c21.ca

Township of Algonquin Highlands

Public Works Department

We are currently accepting resumes for the following positions:

Operator – Stanhope Yard
Seasonal Operator – Dorset Yard
Casual Operator

Visit our website at: www.algonquinhighlands.ca for the complete details.

Qualified candidates are invited to submit a cover letter and resume to:

Dawn Mugford-Guay
Human Resources Coordinator

Township of Algonquin Highlands
1123 North Shore Road
Algonquin Highlands, ON K0M 1S0
Email: dmugfordguay@algonquinhighlands.ca

The Corporation of the County of Haliburton
Requires a
Mechanic/Fleet Coordinator

The Mechanic/Fleet Coordinator is responsible for general control over specifications, inspections, repairs, trouble shooting, maintenance and servicing all County Public Works vehicles and equipment. This position plans and schedules preventative maintenance, maintains inventory and records, and provides guidance to others.

Successful applicants will possess a valid driver's licence (AZ licence an asset), valid class 310T licence, valid class 310S licence and have 5 years of related experience. Class 421A licence an asset. The hourly rate for this unionized CUPE position is $37.07. This position includes participation in the OMERS defined benefit pension program and employer paid extended health benefits.

Visit our website at www.haliburtoncounty.ca/careers for a more detailed posting and job description.

Please forward your resume to shume@haliburtoncounty.ca no later than January 23, 2025, at 4:30pm.

We thank all who apply for this position; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

The County of Haliburton is an equal opportunity employer. Accommodation can be provided in all steps of the hiring process, please contact Human Resources for further details.

In accordance with the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, the information gathered will be used solely for the purpose of job selection.

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FOR SALE – GUILFORD FIREWOOD – Nicely cut and split, ready to burn. $130 per face cord – pick up. Delivery available, call 705-754-3034

FOR SALE – 4 Subaru summer tires & wheels, 205/55R16 $100. 4 Sailun Terramax winter tires 245/70R17 $60. 6 Alternators Valeo 60 amp, new in box $40 each. 2 Honda D15A3 engines, low kms $450 each. 1 Honda EW2 engine, low time $450. Starter for Honda D series, new in box, $100. Stainless Steel T304 tubing straights, J's & U-Bends, call for list. Meyer E-60 Plough Pump, new valves & controller $800. Call 705-457-8775

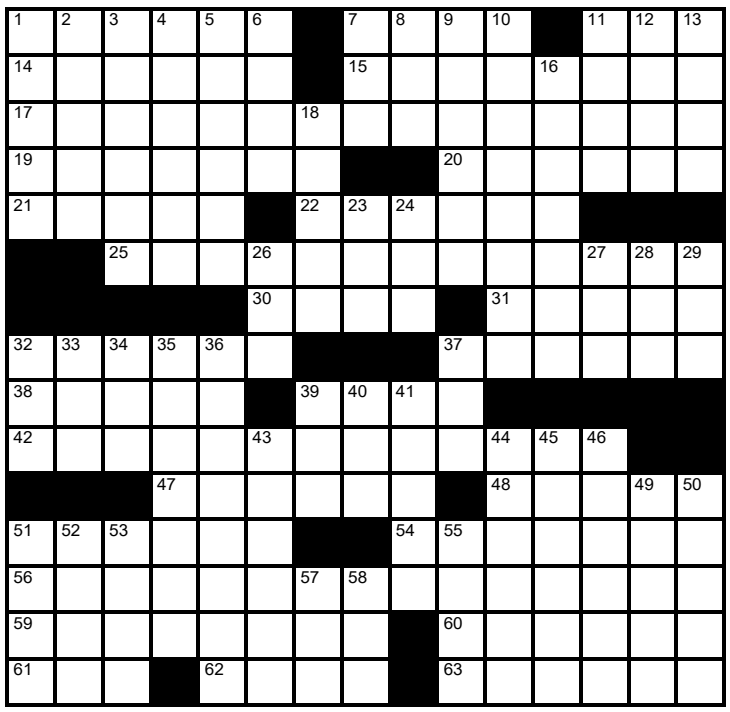
FOR SALE – Pure, unpasteurized honey. Clover, golden, liquid & creamed. Pure honey helps with allergies. Call Tom for details at 705-286-3628/2801 Blair Hampton Road

NOTICES

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS Admission is free and the only requirement for membership is a desire to stop using. This meeting is for addicts only. New meeting in Haliburton that meets every **Thursday** from 7:30-8:30 p.m. in the Link Building. 5152 County Rd 21. For more information and an online version visit www.cloana.org or call 1-888-811-3887

Business as Un-usual

by Barbara Olson
© ClassiCanadian Crosswords



Across

1 So-called "missing link"
7 Pull a fast one on
11 Him: Ger.
14 Tokyo's airport
15 Risking injury, after "in"
17 Their business is picking up?
19 "Brrrr!"
20 ___ Babies (stuffed toys)
21 No-___ (tiny insect)
22 Less firmed up
25 Their business is going under?
30 196.97 for gold: Abbr.
31 When pigs fly, it is said
32 Like a white-tie event
37 Nash and namesakes
38 What a stiffed server gets
39 Come up against
42 Their business is taking off?
47 Has one's say, say
48 ___-Meal (vacuum food storage brand)
51 Uses cribs, say
54 Bottle depot drop-offs
56 Their business is growing?
59 Cut from the in group
60 Writer de Beauvoir
61 Canadian Club or Wiser's
62 Midge
63 Trial typists

Down

1 Disagreeable ones?
2 Ex ___ (one-sided, in legalese)
3 Backspaced over
4 Flubbed pool shot
5 Back from work, maybe
6 Table salt, in chem class
7 FedEx alternative
8 Chicago-based carrier: Abbr.
9 Offer before an auction
10 Introducing guests, say
11 Gold medalist's comment
12 Dancer-turned-spy Mata ___
13 Wall St. trading centre
16 "I'm ___!" (hungry person's hyperbole)
18 Praiseful poet
23 Hardly any
24 Spare tire or muffin top
26 Square up
27 "The Three Faces of ___" (book about multiple personality disorder)
28 Toon chihuahua
29 C.P.P. recipients
32 T.O.'s big bash
33 Cured bagel spread
34 Go from ___ B
35 Put in a certain place
36 Raining just a bit
37 Sans scrip, briefly
39 Suffix on juice drinks
40 Where spirits are often seen
41 Still gooey
43 It gives the doc an inside view
44 Wit and vivacity
45 Run the clock again
46 Hiver or été
49 "Don't ___ One Get You Down" (War song)
50 Complete bozos
51 Arctic ___ (northern food fish)
52 Bible cover word
53 Shallowest Great Lake
55 Tousle, as hair
57 Actress Hagen
58 Rent out

Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association
Fish Hatchery

RAINBOW TROUT FOR SALE

Spring is around the corner, and starting April 1, there will be a limited number of 8" rainbows available @$2.50 each.

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